

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL  
5 June 1985

Tampa, Fla.

Two Virginians and one Illinois resident were indicted by a federal grand jury Tuesday on charges they helped a man claiming extensive ties to the CIA flee the country to avoid standing trial for extortion.

Viki David, 32, of Falls Church, Va., Daniel Stephen Drake, 47, Alexandria, Va., and Gerald Hinshaw, Minooka, Ill., were charged with obstruction of justice and aiding and abetting Ernest Keiser and his wife Bebe in contempt of court and failure to appear for trial.

Keiser, who claims extensive ties with the Central Intelligence Agency, and his wife were to have gone on trial in federal court in Tampa Feb. 5, but failed to appear.

The indictment said the three defendants helped Keiser obtain a passport, a disguise and money, which he and his wife used to leave the country. It said the Keisers were accompanied to Germany by Hinshaw and Drake, and still remain there.

Keiser faced trial in Tampa on charges he tried to extort a bribe from a banker in return for getting federal charges against him dropped. His wife faced trial on a charge she falsely understated the couple's assets in making a case for his release on bond.

Keiser, also known as Ernst Von Keiser, claimed to have had 30 years of service in foreign countries as a covert contract agent for various U.S. intelligence agencies, and was credited by the Justice Department with luring renegade former CIA agent Edwin Wilson back to his country from Libya to face charges.